

REMARKS

The above amendment to this application is being proposed after a Notice of Allowance was mailed. While jurisdiction of the application is normally removed from the primary examiner once the issue notice is mailed, the examiner has the discretion pursuant to 37 CFR 312 and MPEP 1305 to correct obvious errors when brought to his attention, and to admit amendments under 37 CFR 312, which are confined to matters of form in the specification or claims. He also has the discretion to admit any cancellation of a claim. No letter to the Commissioner is normally required when amendments are limited to matters of form.

The withdrawn claims 5-6, 25-39 and 47-52 were never formally marked as "deleted". This error is being corrected herein.

Claim 43 had previously depended from claim 42 and was erroneously amended to depend from claim 54 in the April 2003 amendment. There is no antecedent basis for the limitation: "the conductive members" in claim 54. The antecedent basis exists in claim 42.

Claim 42 was not amended in the April 2003 amendment. Claim 42 depends from independent claim 40, which also was not amended in the April 2003 amendment. Claim 54 was amended in the April 2003 amendment to include the limitations of claim 40, which did not introduce the antecedent basis for the terminology of claim 43.

The above-proposed amendment is intended to correct the obvious error introduced in the April 2003 amendment.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the telephone interview extended to his attorney on September 17, 2003. The Examiner is invited to telephone applicant's attorney should any issue remain.

OFFICIAL

Date: 9/24/03Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent Office,
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on 9/24/03
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